

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS19582

Road safety is critical for all road users. Most motorists when passing non-motorized road users will move over to provide a safe distance. To allow law enforcement to protect non-motorized road users, this legislation requires (when possible and safe) that motor vehicles provide a three-foot distance when passing a pedestrian, bicyclist, or other human-powered vehicle (such as a wheelchair) in the same lane. To adequately reflect conditions on the road, an exemption is provided when passing can be done safely and road conditions do not allow a motorist to provide the proscribed three feet to the non-motorized road user. The obligation for due care when operating a motor vehicle on Idaho roads (Idaho Code 69-615) is fully maintained. To avoid non-motorized users obstructing our roads, the legislation requires pedestrians, bicyclists, or other human-powered vehicles to move to the side of the road to allow motorists to pass when obstructing the passage of three or more motor vehicles. This is the same requirement for motor vehicles obstructing the passage of three or more motor vehicles in Idaho code section 49-639.

FISCAL NOTE

Citations to motorists and non-motorized road users could result in a small positive fiscal impact to local governments.

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